Postal Regulatory Commission 901 New York Ave, NW Suite 200 Washington, DC 20268-0001 RECEIVED

2011 NOV 23 P 2: 14

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Citizens against the Closing
Of the Niagara Post Office

Office of P

November 9th 2011

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Ave, NW Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

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Patrick. W. McMahon 11-11-11
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Citizens against the Closing Of the Niagara Post Office

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Citizens against the Closing Of the Niagara Post Office

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Laurel Mabben Received

Citizens against the Closing Of the Niagara Post Office

November 10, 2011

Dear Postal Regulatory Commission,

I received a response to my previous correspondence of specific questions, after our first meeting, with your regional staff. This response never addressed any of the specific questions. It was obviously a form letter, written by someone who had no knowledge of our area, much less of our community did not even live close to our area, . It made me feel like my concerns were not important to the Postal Regulatory Commission. It is apparent that you are only fulfilling the steps that are required by law or regulations.

Laws were passed in history to protect Rural Postal Service. My best hope is that your commission would consider the rural elderly and not only the profit margin.

It is also my hope, now that congress has addressed some of your pension concerns, therefore some of your budget concerns, that you would address some of our small town people concerns.

Your lack of addressing the very real concerns of Americans in isolated areas is becoming typical of what people expect from public and private corporations in

Washington, DC.

Example: Our community has a grain elevator, a post office, a garage and a church. The proprietor of the garage is in his 80's, and will soon close. The post office and the garage's front window are our only bulletin boards. The post office is the social center and daily outing, as elderly neighbors meet to pick up their mail, purchase postage, send packages and certified letters, pick up their medications, and visit. Your form letter said something to the effect that grocery stores offer a bulletin board for local announcements. Our closest grocery stores are 18 and 22 miles away, respectively. Do you honestly think that people in their 70's and 80's will drive that far during the 5-6 month icy season to look at announcements.

I asked specifically if our local post office, that is only open a few hours a day, was loosing proportionally more income than Grand Forks and Devil's Lake Post Offices? I have never received an answer to that question in any correspondence, report or communication. Why are only the rural Postal services being targeted for

closure?

Your letters have suggested that the contracted rural carriers will perform all the services necessary. Obviously, no one has considered the isolated nature, security issues, identity theft issues, medicine delivery, weather issues, etc. of our rural boxes. The training of the rural carriers and the equipment they carry will have to be much more sophisticated if the can **begin** to give near equal service! I can not see how this will lower your budget! If these issues were not so serious, your shallow responses would be laughable. Does any of your commission live in rural small towns? Or are they all city dwellers?

The Post Office employs at least one local individual, part time. Loss of this position, loss of the utilities, lawn mowing, snow removal, maintenance is a significant

loss to a town our size and the farm families who live in our area.

If you decide to proceed with the closure of the rural Post Offices slated for closure, including ours in Niagara, ND, your Commission will be directly responsible for a sharp decline in the basic services and life stye for rural America.

Please make a concerted effort to address our concerns and appeal.

Sincerely.

Dennis J. Neels 4722 26th Ave NI

4722 26th Ave NE Niagara, ND 58266

Received

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Office of A L 3

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Sincerely, Phyllia M. Behn

Received

NOV 2 1 2011

Citizens against the Closing Of the Niagara Post Office

November 9th 2011

Postal Regulatory Commission 901 New York Ave, NW Suite 200 Washington, DC 20268-0001

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